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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Shigeru YAMAMOTO, et al.

Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit:

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner:

Filed: March 30, 2001

For: NOVEL ENZYME COMPOSITION AND PRODUCTION METHOD AND USE  
THEREOF

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 21-22 please delete the third full paragraph and insert the following new  
paragraph:

The hybridization can be carried out under the aforementioned stringent condition. For example, DNAs from a genomic DNA library or a cDNA library obtained from a microorganism capable of producing an enzyme of the present invention is fixed on nylon membranes, and the thus prepared nylon membranes are subjected to blocking at 65°C in a pre-hybridization solution containing 6 x SSC, 0.5% SDS, 5 x Denhart's and 100 µg/ml of salmon sperm DNA. Thereafter, each probe labeled with <sup>32</sup>P or digoxigenin is added thereto, followed by incubation overnight at 68°C. The thus treated nylon membranes are washed in 6 x SSC containing 0.1% SDS at room temperature for 10 minutes, in 6 x SSC containing 0.1% SDS 45°C for 30 minutes and then